

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 201659

12

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /049 R

DRAFTED BY ISA/FMRA - GRUNAWALT:DLD

APPROVED BY EUR/SE:WLEAGLETON

ISA/EUR - DMAJORS

NAVY OP-614 - CAPT. MEANIX

J-5 (INFORMED) - COL. STEARNS

EUR/SE:JGDAY

PM - GCHURCHILL

NAVY:ADM. MOORER

EUR/RPM:GBHELMAN

----- 064351

R 251615Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO USMISSION NATO

SECDEF

JCS

USDELMC

CINCUSNAVEUR

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAFE

CNO WASHDC

S E C R E T STATE 201659

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, NARR, GR

SUBJECT- US-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS: SOUDA BAY

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS FOR
ROUND TWO OF THE US-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS CONTEMPLATED
THAT THE GREEKS WOULD BE APPRISED OF OUR DESIRE TO INI-
Tiate SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS REGARDING RESUMPTION OF US
OPERATING RIGHTS AT THE SOUDA BAY COMPLEX. HOWEVER, CIR-
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 201659

CUMSTANCES LIMITED OFFICIAL REFERENCE TO YOADA BAY TO US

PROTEST IN PLENARY OF THE OPERATING RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED UPON US THERE AND ELSEWHERE BY THE GREEKS. AS A RESULT, SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON SOUDA BAY WERE NOT OPENED AND US NAVY USE OF THAT COMPLEX CONTINUES TO BE SEVERELY RESTRICTED.

2. THE SOUDA BAY COMPLEX IS AN IMPORTANT FACILITY FOR RESPONSIVE LOGISTIC, ASW AND DIVERT SUPPORT OF SIXTH FLEET OPERATIONS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THE OPERATING RESTRICTIONS ON SOUDA B THEREFORE CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT IN OUR ABILITY TO CONDUCT MILITARY OPERATIONS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN; THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHICH ARE ALL THE MORE SERIOUS GIVEN RECENT EVENTS IN

US-TURKISH RELATIONS. WHEREAS THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO HAS LITTLE ADVERSE IMPACT ON OUR ABILITY TO OPERATE IN A RELATIVELY ROUTINE MANNER AT OUR OTHER MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN GREECE, THAT IS NOT THE CASE AT THE SOUDA BAY COMPLEX WHERE OPERATIONAL RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED DURING THE 1974 CYPRUS CRISIS CONTINUE UNABATED.

3. OUR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GREEKS SHOULD NOT OF COURSE PROCEED TOO FAR AHEAD OF THE NATO-GREEK TALKS. MOREOVER, WE RECOGNIZE THAT CONCLUSION OF A NEW TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENT FOR SOUDA BAY MAY HAVE TO AWAIT FURTHER RESOLUTION OF GREECE'S ROLE IN NATO, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE QUID FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT MAY ULTIMATELY INVOLVE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING OF HELLENIC AIR FORCE CONSTRUCTION AT THAT COMPLEX. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY FOLLOW THAT DISCUSSIONS AT THE SUBGROUP LEVEL REGARDING THE LIFTING, OR AT LEAST THE EASING, OF OPERATING RESTRICTIONS AT SOUDA BAY WILL IMPINGE ON FORTHCOMING NATO-GREEK TALKS. IN ANY EVENT, WE DO NOT PROPOSE TO INITIATE ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GREEKS ON A TECHNICAL AGREEMENT UNTIL AFTER WE HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO ASSESS THE RESULTS OF THE TALKS IN NATO WHICH WILL FOLLOW ON GREEK PERMREP'S PLANNED PRESENTATION IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

4. DEPARTMENT AND DOD ARE REVIEWING A NAVY REQUEST THAT SUBSTANTIVE SOUDA BAY NEGOTIATIONS BE INITIATED WITH THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 201659

GREEKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THIS PROPOSAL AS WELL AS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY GREEK REACTION WERE WE TO PROPOSE THAT A SOUDA BAY SUBGROUP BE CONVENED PRIOR TO ROUND THREE. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS, SOUDA BAY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE201659
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GRUNAWALT:DLD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750294-0603
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750821/aaaaarwg.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-GREEK BASE NEGOTIATIONS: SOUDA BAY
TAGS: MILI, MARR, GR, US
To: ATHENS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006